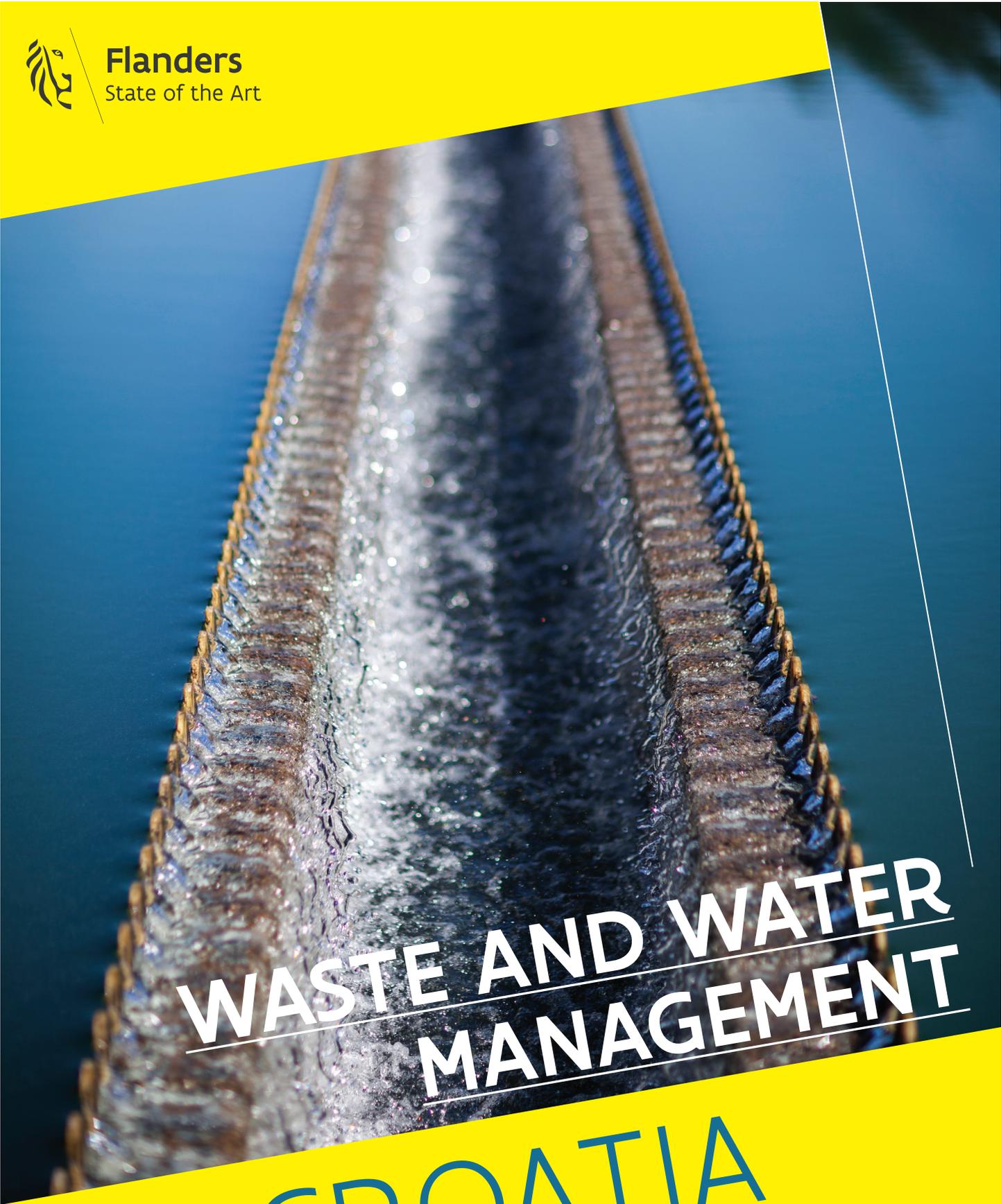




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**WASTE AND WATER
MANAGEMENT**

IN CROATIA

FLANDERS INVESTMENT & TRADE MARKET SURVEY

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WASTE AND WATER
MANAGEMENT IN CROATIA
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WASTE AND WATER MANAGEMENT IN CROATIA



November 2018

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To conclude, the country still has some challenges to face in the future, including unemployment, heavy dependence on tourism and hospitality, a growing trade deficit and growing external debt and emigration.

Croatia became a full member of the European Union on the 1st of July 2013. Croatia is also a member of the Council of Europe, NATO, United Nations and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Economic Index	
Population	4,246,700 ¹
Human Development Index (IDH)	0.831 ²
GDP	€ 47.40 billion
GDP (per capita)	€ 11,810 ³
Inflation Rate	1,4 %
Average Monthly Salary (gross)	€ 1086
Average Monthly Salary (NET)	€ 980
Unemployment Rate	8.5%
Export, EUR	€ 14.16 billion
Import, EUR	€ 21.98 billion
Global Competitiveness Index	4.19
Gross external debt, mIn EUR	€ 46748.98
Main Commercial Partners	Italy Bosnia and Herzegovina Germany Slovenia Austria
Currency	kuna (HRK)
Average Exchange Rate/Euro	7.42141HRK
Average Exchange Rate/Dollar	6.428296 HRK

Table 1: Croatia's Economic Indicators

¹ http://www.dzs.hr/Hrv_Eng/publication/2012/SI-1469.pdf

² http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/HRV.pdf

³ http://www.indexmundi.com/croatia/gdp_composition_by_sector.html

⁴ http://www.dzs.hr/Hrv/system/first_results.htm

emissions of 1990, the base year in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, it was later approved by the Convention Assembly of 2006.

The 21st session of the Conference of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 11th session of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol were held in the framework of the Paris Climate Change Conference held in Paris on 30 November-12 December 2015, resulting in the conclusion of the new global agreement on climate change - the Paris Agreement. The Republic of Croatia adopted the Act on the Ratification of the Paris Agreement, with final proposal of the Act, at the 3rd session of the Croatian Parliament convened on 17 March 2017, as of which date the provisions of the Paris Agreement became officially binding for our country. (<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/past-conferences/paris-climate-change-conference-november-2015/paris-climate-change-conference-november-2015>)

Furthermore, Croatia demanded to be allowed 6% increase of emissions through 2020, compared to the minimum of 20% reduction in most other states, due to the new Energy Strategy, which includes plans to build two new coal-fuelled power plants, with the possibility to build a nuclear power station (2020 at the earliest) and re-launch the Adria pipeline project. (https://www.mzoip.hr/doc/energy_strategy_of_the_republic_of_croatia.pdf)

Agreements signed by Croatia can be found in the website of the Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection: <http://www.mzoip.hr/hr/propisi-i-medunarodni-ugovorixxx.html>. This website mentions all the International treaties ratified or signed by the Republic of Croatia.

Croatia's basic development orientations have been defined in socio-economic development documents and sector strategies and plans. The sector strategies relevant to the environment sector are:

- National Environmental Strategy (2002);
(https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2002_04_46_924.html?fbclid=IwAR1G_4GTobcTwoiStEo3xf9Ju81XR3fErM5iKd6JcVJk0F5D4802hX7ciLU)
- Spatial Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia (2013-2030
(<http://www.ectp-ceu.eu/images/stories/Awards2016/online-files/04-Croatia-SpatialDevelopmentStrategy-desEN.pdf>)
- Transport Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia (2017 - 2030);
(http://www.kormany.hu/download/9/9f/11000/00_HR_kozlekedesfejlesztési_strategia_EN.pdf)
- Energy Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia (2002, updated in 2009);
(<https://www.mingo.hr/userdocsimages/White%20Paper%20Energy%20Staregy%20of%20the%20Republic%20of%20Croatia.pdf>)
- Croatian Tourism Development Strategy for the Period up to 2020 (2013) ;

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municipality achieved 50 % of its waste separation and preparations for re-use and recycling, thereby already meeting the 2020 target set in the Waste Framework Directive.

- An EU-funded project on the modernisation of the water and waste-water infrastructure has been finalised in Slavonski Brod. Its main objective was to ensure that it meets European standards, bringing benefits to inhabitants and safeguarding the environment in the River Danube basin.
- In October 2015, Croatia prepared the Green Book: the technical basis for the development of a low-carbon strategy for Croatia for the period until 2030, and looking ahead to 2050. This strategy sets out the path towards a competitive low-carbon economy. It applies to all sectors of the economy and human activities, but is related in particular to energy, industry, transport, agriculture, forestry and waste management (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eir/pdf/factsheet_hr_en.pdf).

3.3 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

On a general level, responsibility for environmental policy lies mainly within the following three ministries:

- The **Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection** (www.mzoip.hr)
- The **Ministry of Agriculture** (<http://www.mps.hr/default.aspx?id=5340>)
- The **Ministry of Regional development and EU funds** (www.mrrfeu.hr)

Other government bodies concerned with environmental protection are: Ministry of Social Politics and Youth (<http://www.mspm.hr/>), Ministry of Health (<https://zdravlje.gov.hr>), Ministry of Science, Education and Sport (<https://mzo.hr>), Ministry of Culture (<http://www.min-kulture.hr/default.aspx?id=4616>), Ministry of Economy (<http://www.mingo.hr/en>), Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds (<https://razvoj.gov.hr/>), Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts (<https://poduzetnistvo.gov.hr/>), Ministry of Tourism (<http://www.mint.hr/default.aspx?id=4493>) and Ministry of Sea, Transportation and Infrastructure (<http://www.mppi.hr/default.aspx?id=7397>).

In addition, the Croatian Agency for the Protection of Environment and Nature (merger of the Agency for Environment Protection (<http://www.haop.hr>) and the State Institute for Nature Protection (<http://www.dzpp.hr/eng/>)) has the task of gathering and providing environmental data. Last but not least, there are the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund and the Croatian Waters for water management.

Moreover, the Association of Municipal Waste Management at the Croatian Chamber of Economy gathers all the companies within the same domain and implements activities like seminars, education, determines remarks and suggestions related to legal framework, organizes fairs and similar events.

(<http://www.hgk.hr/category/udruzenja/udruzenje-komunalnog-gospodarstva>).

No.	Measure	Description	Responsible	Possible source of funding	Dead line
4.1	Creating a Plan for closing non-hazardous waste landfills	Within this measure, a Plan for closing non-hazardous waste landfills for all counties will be created based on current available capacities and other relevant criteria, which will include further landfilling after 31/12/2018 to regulated landfills.	MEE//CAEN /RSGU LSGU	EPEEF/ME E/EU	2017
4.2	Remedy non-hazardous waste landfills	This measure includes remedying non-hazardous waste landfills	LSGU	EU/LSGU/ EPEEF	2022
4.3	Identifying new locations polluted by hazardous waste ("hot spots")	This measure includes conducting a study for the identification of new locations polluted by hazardous waste ("hot spots")	MEE	EPEEF/EU	2018
4.4	Remedying locations polluted by hazardous waste ("hot spots")	This measure includes continuing remedying locations polluted by hazardous waste, so called "hot spots" defined in this Plan (Chapter 1.3) and newly identified locations of "hot spots" through the measure 4.3	MA/MEE	EU/EPEEF /PI	2022
4.5	Remedying abandoned waste locations	This measure includes removing abandoned waste from the environment, including speleological objects and preventing new waste abandonment at these locations.	LSGU	LSGU	2020

Table 3 Measures for remediation of polluted locations

5. MAJOR ISSUES IN WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN CROATIA

Croatia entered the EU so it has to adjust to EU laws. It is hard to do that after many years of letting 'wild landfills' to happen. Not only is the environment destroyed but it will take years for it to recover. Not to mention that at the end it costs a lot of time and money. Here are the major issues and problems in the waste management in Croatia are:

- Increased volumes of waste being sent to landfill;

11. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Water management responsibilities in Croatia are divided between the following institutions:

The water management activities in Croatia are divided into: legal (competence of the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia), administrative (competence of the Ministry of Agriculture (<http://www.mps.hr>) , Ministry of Environment and Energy (www.mzoip.hr) and other units of State and local and regional authorities), and operative water management activities (competence of Croatian Waters (www.voda.hr)).

The **Croatian parliament** (www.sabor.hr) and the **Government of the Republic of Croatia** (www.vlada.gov.hr) are State Authority Bodies. The Parliament adopts the relevant legislation and national strategies, such as the Water Management Strategy. A Parliamentary committee issues opinions on specific acts and documents. The Government adopts the river basin district management plans and proposes relevant legislation and strategies to Parliament.

Ministry of Environment and Energy (www.mzoip.hr)

The focus of the work carried out by the Ministry of Environment and Energy is to create conditions for sustainable development – development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The scope of work of the Ministry includes tasks related to protection and conservation of the environment and nature in line with the sustainable development policy of the Republic of Croatia, as well as tasks related to water management and administrative and other tasks from the field of energy.

Hrvatske Vode / Croatian Waters (www.voda.hr) is the legal entity for water management in Croatia.

Hrvatske Vode / Croatian Waters are a public institution founded by the Republic of Croatia. It is run by a Management Board and a general manager, both appointed by the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

As distinguished from budgetary funding, Hrvatske Vode / Croatian Water provide direct expert, technical, economic, and legal assistance to municipal users in defining, preparing, and implementing projects of varying complexity. Hrvatske Vode / Croatian Water spends allocated funds on the basis of water management plans.

Hrvatske Vode / Croatian Waters perform water management activities as a public service and is part of the third level of public administration. The first level is the Government of the Republic of Croatia. The second level consists of ministries and state administration organizations. The third level consists of public institutions, public-right organizations, and companies which perform public service and whose major shareholders are the state, counties, towns/cities or municipalities.



Activities related to regulation, inspection and appeal in the field of water management are conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, positioned on the second level of the public administration. A special role in water management rests with the National Water Council, a body appointed by Croatian Parliament. It discusses legislation, financing system, the Water Management Master Plan, and the needs arising in various areas of life in connection with the water system.

The tasks performed by Croatian Waters are as follows:

- co-ordination of preparation and development of water supply plans
- co-ordination of preparation and development of water research projects related to individual projects / subprojects
- participation in the preparation of mid-term and long-term planning documentation of the water management
- coordination of implementation of water use plans; monitoring the implementation of water use plans and reporting on execution
- care about setting up a water financing program framework with large co-financiers (ministries, state administrative organizations, companies and state-owned institutions)
- implementation of part of the water supply program (regional water supply systems, supply of water supply), and part of the program of waterworks
- the organization of a system for issuing water rights certificates in the field of water use
- participation in the drafting of legal and sub-legal acts for water use
- conducting statistical data on water consumption from public water supply systems, water prices, losses in the water supply network, collection of water use fees, collection of basic data on financial operations of utility companies in the water supply sector
- elaboration of other expert reports on the state and problems of water use for the needs of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, the Ministry, Croatian waters and others.
- care about developing methodology and organizing the construction of a cadastre of water use
- preparation of previous opinions on decisions on sanitary protection sources
- tracking the development of drinking water purification technology
- professional activities within the international obligations in the area of water use

Ministry of Sea, Transport, and Infrastructure) <http://www.mppi.hr/> – performs administrative, professional, and other activities related to the organization of strategic infrastructure projects and investment programs of special importance to the Republic of Croatia (water supply, wastewater sewerage, etc.) which are entirely or partially financed from the State Budget, coordinates the activities of other subjects in the construction of such facilities, monitors and controls the investments, and performs professional activities

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